

## STRAIGHT TALK ABOUT VOUCHERS

### ■ Reasonable Choices Are Available

Utah already offers many good choices through “open enrollment” and charter schools. Taxpayers can’t fund every choice.

### ■ Proposed Voucher Laws are Inadequate

Even with last minute legislative “patch work,” voucher laws authorize schools with too little oversight, no real coursework or attendance requirements, lax standards for teachers and minimal accountability to taxpayers. Risk of inadequate and unstable schools is high.

### ■ Whom Would Vouchers Help?

Probably not the disadvantaged. Even with vouchers, parents with modest income couldn’t afford to send their children to good private schools.

### ■ Is There “Additional Money” For Public Schools?

No. For five years, transferring students would be double funded by taxpayers – in the private schools *and* the public schools they left behind. Thereafter, public school funding would be cut to reflect lost enrollment.

### ■ Would Vouchers Prevent Tax Increases?

Unlikely. Subsidizing students now privately funded creates a projected deficit of almost a half billion dollars. These dollars would come from other worthy projects like health care, public safety, and roads. *If we have extra taxpayer money, it would be better spent reducing class sizes and improving Utah’s public schools.*

### ■ “Bureaucrats and Liberals”?

Who are they? Not the 29,000 dedicated, caring and underpaid teachers in our neighborhood schools; also not Utah’s commonsense conservative citizens who oppose another entitlement program. The real “bureaucrats and liberals” are the subsidy advocates and out-of-state voucher pushers looking for Utah to save their faltering national movement.

**VOTE NO ON VOUCHERS**